

NEWS RELEASE

November 1, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

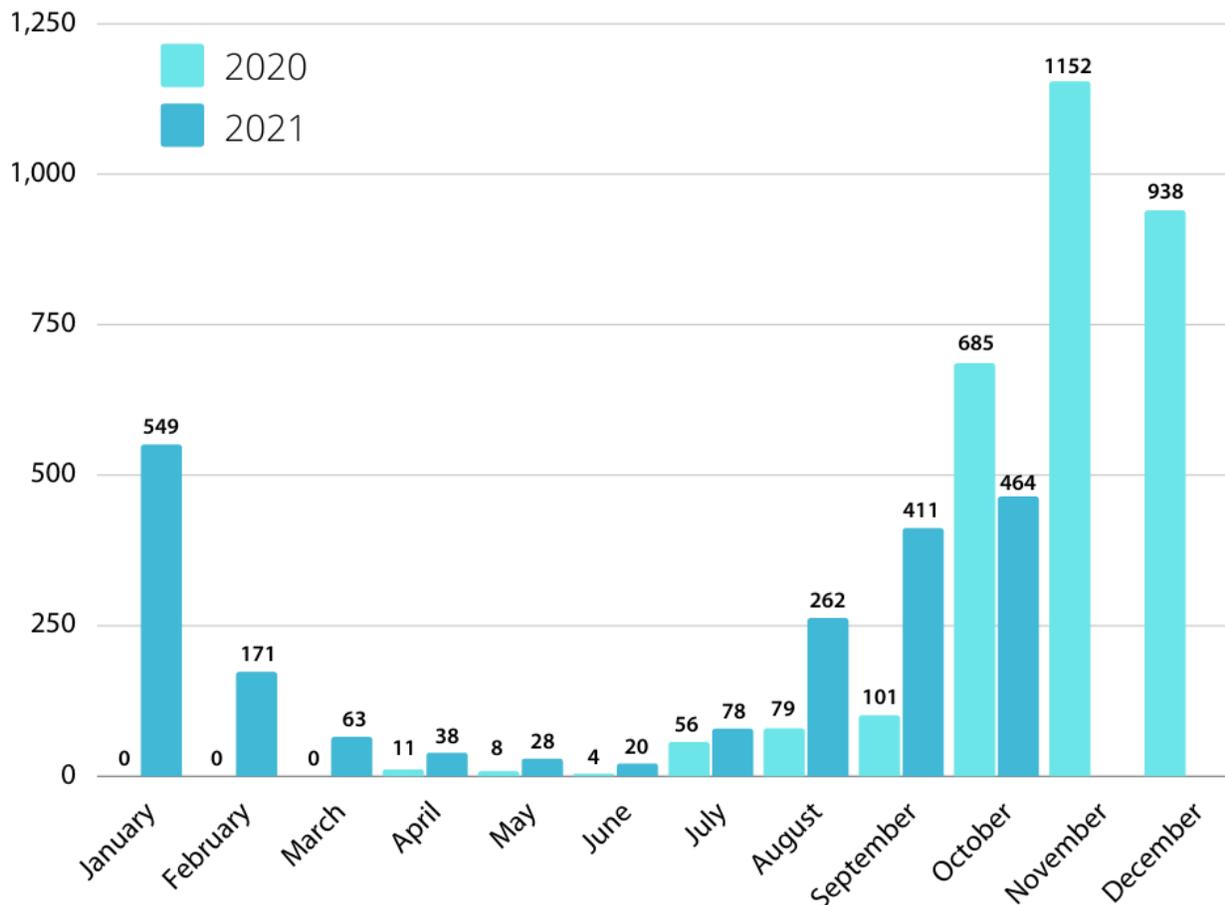
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Comparing COVID-19 Cases 2020 to 2021

Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) has provided a comparison of COVID-19 case counts by month during 2020 and 2021 in the nine-county health district. Data for November and December 2021 is not yet available.

Late fall, especially November and December saw the highest case counts last year, and this year is seeing some of the same pattern. SWNPHD continues to recommend residents protect themselves against the ongoing spread of COVID-19 in southwest Nebraska, which includes avoiding crowded closed spaces, staying home when sick, and vaccination for eligible ages.

SWNPHD COVID-19 Cases by Month



Even with the more contagious Delta variant, COVID-19 case rates have not spiked as high as last fall, thanks largely to the combined efforts of healthcare providers, pharmacies, public health, and many others who worked to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to more than 50% of southwest Nebraska's residents. SWNPHD owes a great deal of thanks to the many people who made this work possible, such as the staff at McCook's Mid Plains Community College who provided an ultracold freezer that was needed to store the Pfizer vaccine until SWNPHD could arrange to get one.

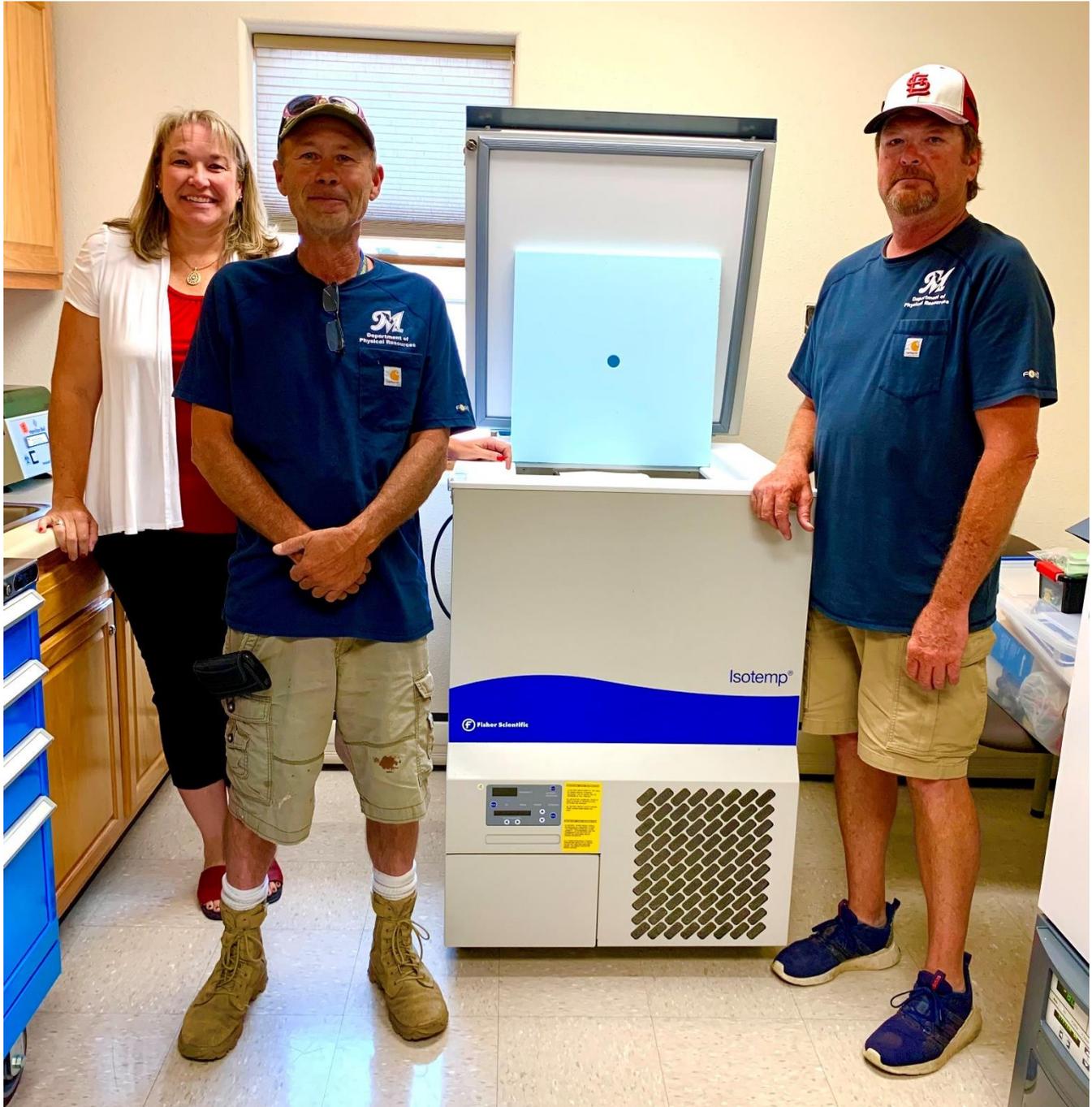


Photo left to right: Heidi Wheeler, Nebraska Plains Healthcare Coalition Coordinator; Don Barenberg and Keith Heathers, staff at Mid Plains Community College McCook Campus.

SWNPHD had 101 new cases of COVID-19 reported from October 26 to November 1, 2021, bringing the weekly average to 111 cases per week in the last 30 days. A breakdown by age includes: 0 to 19 – 24; 20 to 29 – 10; 30 to 39 – 6; 40 to 49 – 11; 50 to 59 – 10; 60 to 69 – 23; 70 to 79 – 12; 80 and over – 5. The total number of cases is 5,135.

Visit swhealth.ne.gov for information on COVID-19. You can also follow SWNPHD on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. SWNPHD serves Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins, and Red Willow counties. SWNPHD is located at 404 West 10th St (1 block north of Arby's) in McCook and can be reached by calling 308-345-4223.

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